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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/438,652	11/12/1999	NOBUO SASAKI	SCEI-16.677	9667

7590 07/08/2002

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EXAMINER

GOOD JOHNSON, MOTILEWA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2672

DATE MAILED: 07/08/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/438,652	SASAKI ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Motilewa A. Good-Johnson	2672	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 November 1999 .

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4, 5, 6) Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the following communications: application, filed on 11/12/1999; IDS, paper #4, filed on 06/06/2000; IDS, paper #5, filed on 08/21/2000.
2. Claims 1-10 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 6 are independent claims. No claims have yet been amended.
3. The present title of this application is "Image Generation Method and Image Generation Device" (as originally filed).

Priority

4. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily

published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

6. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rich, U.S. Patent Number 5,892,517, "Shared Access Texturing of Computer Graphic Images", class 345/430, 04/06/1999, filed 06/10/1996.

As per independent claim 1, Rich discloses in col. 4, lines 65-67, texture patterns defined in two-dimensional space for each pattern, and in col. 20, lines 35-54, wavelet compression for compressing texture maps in which the amplitudes of each basis function are specified and scaling and quantizing the amplitude to achieve compression.

It is inherent that Rich achieves modulation or variation of the amplitude by scaling and quantizing the amplitude values of the texture maps.

With respect to dependent claim 2, Rich discloses in col. 8, lines 5-9, calculating visibility information to determine visibility of a pixel and further discloses in col. 21, lines 43-50, determining an amplitude value for the wavelet basis functions and the corresponding amplitude values results in a predetermine level of detail of the texture map.

With respect to dependent claim 3, Rich discloses in col. 20, lines 55-62, wavelets containing a single period of the wave and not a repeating sequence.

With respect to dependent claim 4, Rich discloses in col. 21, lines 23-39, wavelets comprising the lower frequency of the basis functions corresponding to a finer level of detail or truncating wavelet basis functions of higher frequency basis functions.

With respect to dependent claim 5, Rich discloses in col. 4, lines 60-63, object model may include texture patterns that appear on the polygon surfaces.

As per independent claim 6, Rich discloses in col. 19, lines 46-54, texture pattern blocks are retrieved from memory on-by-one and further discloses in col. 20-21, wavelet compression in which amplitude values of the texture maps are scaled and quantized to create a compressed wavelet amplitude value (col. 21, lines 40-58). Rich discloses in col. 25, lines 36-64, the processing elements that utilize the retrieved texture data for calculating pixel values using the texture information.

With respect to dependent claims 7-10, they are rejected based upon similar rational as above dependent claims 2-5.

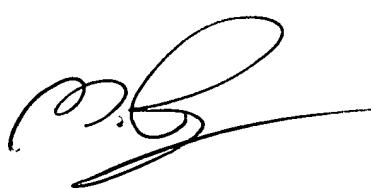
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Motilewa A. Good-Johnson whose telephone number is (703) 305-3939. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mike Razavi can be reached on (703) 305-4713. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Motilewa A. Good-Johnson
Examiner
Art Unit 2672

mgj
June 28, 2002



MICHAEL RAZAVI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600